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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/382,458	08/25/1999	YOSHIHIRO WATANABE	21.1918	5255

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EXAMINER

PIZARRO, RICARDO M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2661

15

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/382,458

Applicant(s)

WATANABE, YOSHIHIRO

Examiner

Ricardo M. Pizarro

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 May 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 and 20-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15, 17 and 21-23 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 16, 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

FINAL ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 16 and, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi in view of admitted prior art.

Takahashi (US No. 6, 282,197) discloses an ATM switching apparatus, comprising: sending a request message from the subscriber to the switching system (SET UP message, col 2 lines 51-54, col 3 lines 1-5) to set in order of large bandwidth to small bandwidth the various bandwidth which correspond to multiple paths required to provide the service (e.g. QOS, Fig. 9, col 2 23-26 and 33-37, col 5 lines 9-10, col 16 lines 66-67,col 17 lines 1-9) , securing the bandwidth required between the service provider and the subscriber in order of large bandwidth to small bandwidth in response to the request message (e.g. QOS, Fig. 9, col 16 lines 66-67, col 17 lines 1-9), as in claim 16.

Takahashi did not specifically disclose a channel type of each path being different as in claims 16 and 20.

Admitted prior art (Fig. 2) discloses a conventional switching system 30. In Fig.2 subscriber A,B,C and D, switching system 30 and server 35 are indicated by vertical lines. When subscriber A sends a setup message for the control channel , system 30 secures the control channel bandwidth and sends message to the server. Likewise subscriber B,C and D proceed in the same manner to set said control channel. Server 35

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sends path completion messages to all subscribers. Subscriber A,B,C and D proceed in the same manner to set the voice channel and image channel , as in claims 16 and 20.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide a channel type of each path being different as in the prior art to the unit disclosed by Takahashi with the motivation of obtaining a switching apparatus capable of decreasing the probability of a connection establishing a request being rejected.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-15 , 17, 21-23 are allowed.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's arguments filed on 5/11/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Takahashi fail to disclose securing multiple path. Examiner disagrees since Takahashi discloses securing various bandwidth which correspond to multiple paths required to provide the service (e.g. QOS, Fig. 9, col 2 23-26 and 33-37, col 5 lines 9-10, col 16 lines 66-67,col 17 lines 1-9) .

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

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mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any response to this final action should be mailed to:

Box AF

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314

(for formal communications; please mark "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE", for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Ricardo Pizarro** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-1121**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Douglas Olms**, can be reached on **(703) 305-4703**.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

7/23/2004

Ricardo M. Pizarro



KENNETH VANDERPUYE
PRIMARY EXAMINER